

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

Crop Weather

Prospective Plantings

Grain Stocks

Available on internet at: www.nass.usda.gov/nm OR by e-mail: (call 1-800-530-8810 for information)

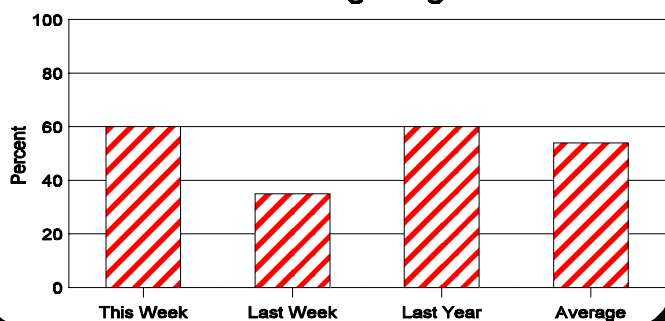
CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 2, 2000

NEW MEXICO: There were 5.2 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was 30% very short, 18% short, 49% adequate and 3% surplus. While conditions improved, more moisture is still needed, especially in the southeast and southwest areas of the State. Main farm activities during the week were planting chile, alfalfa, and oats, and land preparation for spring planting. Onions remained in mostly good to excellent condition. Chile was 60% planted and was in fair to excellent condition. Both irrigated and dryland wheat improved as a result of the moisture during the week. Ranchers were still having to supplement feed for cattle. Cattle continued in fair to good condition, while sheep were in poor to good condition. Pasture and range conditions improved slightly last week to 14% very poor, 29% poor, 50% fair and 7% good.

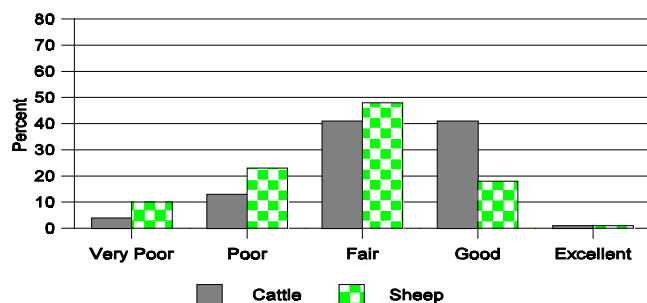
CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
PLANTED	Chile	60	35	60	54

Chile Planting Progress



Livestock Conditions

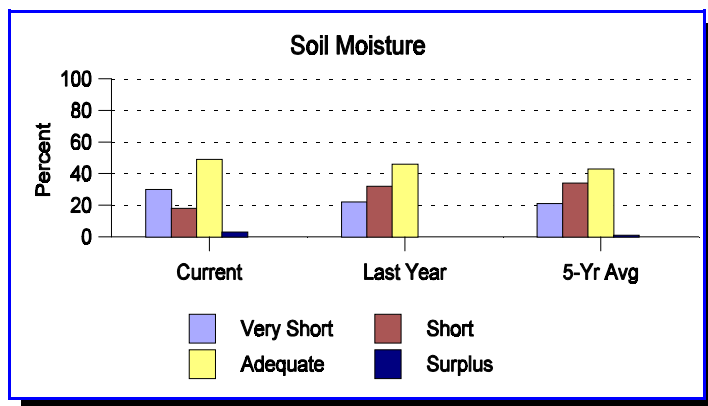


CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	3	6	60	18	13
Chile	--	2	40	35	23
Dry Wheat	20	20	46	14	--
Irrigated Wheat	--	2	48	48	2
Lettuce	--	--	20	20	60
Onions	--	1	19	25	55
Cattle	4	13	41	41	1
Sheep	10	23	48	18	1

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	5	10	77	8
Northeast	17	19	61	3
Southwest	70	20	10	---
Southeast	54	21	25	---
State	30	18	49	3
State-Last Year	22	32	46	---
State-5-Yr Avg.	21	34	43	1



WEATHER SUMMARY

For the second week in a row, an intense winter storm moved across New Mexico. Most of the precipitation was confined to the northern half, with only a few spots receiving over a tenth of an inch in the south. In the north, Farmington, Chama, Raton, Capulin/DesMoines, and Red River all collected over one inch (water equivalent). Temperatures averaged two degrees below normal for the state.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS MARCH 27-APRIL 2, 2000

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	03/27 04/02	04/01 04/02	Normal Apr	01/01 04/02	Normal Jan-Apr
Carlsbad	59.4	85	39	0.02	0.00	0.49	0.15	1.49
Hobbs	55.1	79	39	0.00	0.00	0.73	0.05	2.23
Roswell	55.6	79	38	0.15	0.15	0.46	0.93	1.60
Clayton	44.9	72	27	0.28	0.00	0.94	3.07	2.04
Clovis	50.9	75	33	0.26	0.18	0.81	1.32	2.30
Roy	41.4	60	28	0.75	0.75	0.82	2.40	2.14
Tucumcari	51.1	77	29	0.51	0.21	0.87	1.81	2.00
Chama	38.4	62	24	1.26	0.25	1.27	4.72	6.61
Johnson Ranch	40.6	64	27	0.73	0.13	0.49	3.28	2.47
Capulin	37.3	67	13	1.01	0.12	1.01	2.63	2.86
Las Vegas	42.4	69	21	0.08	0.05	0.89	1.75	2.16
Los Alamos	39.8	62	20	0.45	0.33	1.00	1.75	3.88
Raton	37.9	68	16	1.04	0.02	1.06	2.57	2.90
Santa Fe	42.5	70	21	0.25	0.22	0.81	1.05	2.87
Red River	32.8	58	15	1.03	0.21	1.68	5.73	5.75
Farmington	44.3	70	30	1.30	0.01	0.51	3.73	2.48
Gallup	41.6	70	19	0.75	0.00	0.64	2.62	3.23
Grants	42.5	69	24	0.50	0.08	0.45	0.97	1.95
Silver City	46.1	73	26	0.00	0.00	0.53	0.53	3.90
Quemado	41.4	68	13	0.30	0.13	0.37	2.05	2.06
Albuquerque	48.5	71	27	0.20	0.00	0.52	1.83	1.96
Carrizozo	49.0	75	23	0.18	0.18	0.36	0.36	2.10
Gran Quivera	47.1	70	20	0.55	0.49	0.64	2.09	2.88
Moriarty	43.3	72	19	0.04	0.00	0.66	0.77	2.10
Ruidoso	42.7	67	24	0.27	0.27	0.63	0.67	4.24
Socorro	50.7	74	27	0.05	0.02	0.36	1.30	1.41
Alamogordo	56.3	79	34	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.02	1.93
Animas	56.4	80	32	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.34	1.86
Deming	55.8	82	35	0.02	0.00	0.18	0.65	1.54
T or C	56.0	75	32	0.01	0.01	0.22	1.28	1.40
Las Cruces	58.9	82	37	0.02	0.00	0.21	0.23	1.26

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

NEW MEXICO: Wheat planted acreage rose to 470,000 acres in 2000, an increase of 25,000 acres above last year. Grain Sorghum acreage is projected to jump to 200,000 acres, 33 percent greater than last year, but the same as was planted in 1998. Corn acreage, at 150,000 acres, is unchanged from the previous year. An increase of 1,000 acres of peanuts is anticipated in 2000, bringing planted acreage to 22,000 acres. All cotton acreage is forecast at 81,000 acres, 3,500 greater than in 1999. Upland acreage is expected to increase 5,000 acres, to 81,000; however, American-Pima is expected to decrease 20 percent to 6,000, the lowest acreage in recent history. All hay acreage is also projected to be down this year, decreasing 20,000 acres, to 360,000.

UNITED STATES: Corn growers intend to plant 77.9 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2000, up 1 percent from 1999, but down 3 percent from 1998. Soybean producers intend to plant 74.9 million acres in 2000, up 1 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the largest planted area for soybeans on record. Sorghum plantings are expected to total 8.98 million acres, down 3 percent from last year. All wheat planted area is expected to total 61.7 million acres in 2000. This is down 2 percent from 1999 and the lowest level since 1973. All cotton plantings for 2000 are expected to total 15.6 million acres, 5 percent above last year. If realized, this would be the largest acreage since 1995 and the second largest since 1962. Upland acreage is expected to total 15.3 million acres, up 5 percent from 1999. All 17 Upland cotton producing States intend to increase acreage from last year. Growers intend to decrease their plantings of American-Pima cotton to 217,000 acres, down 25 percent from 1999. All American-Pima cotton producing States intend to decrease acreage from last year.

Crop Summary, Acres Planted, New Mexico and U.S., 1998-2000

Crop	New Mexico				United States			
	1998	1999	2000 ^{1/}	2000/1999	1998	1999	2000 ^{1/}	2000/1999
	-----1,000 Acres---		--Percent--		-----1,000 Acres-----		--Percent--	
Corn	140	150	150	100	80,165	77,431	77,881	101
Sorghum	200	150	200	133	9,626	9,288	8,979	97
Oats	—	—	—	—	4,892	4,670	4,351	93
Barley	—	—	—	—	6,337	5,223	5,733	110
All Wheat	415	445	470	106	65,821	62,814	61,664	98
Winter	415	445	470	106	46,449	43,431	43,245	100
Other Spring	—	—	—	—	15,567	15,348	14,809	96
Soybeans	—	—	—	—	72,025	73,780	74,871	101
Peanuts	22.0	21.0	22.0	105	1,521.0	1,533.0	1,474.0	96
All Cotton	73.6	77.5	81.0	105	13,392.5	14,855.0	15,558.0	105
Upland	66.3	70.0	75.0	107	13,064.3	14,565.0	15,341.0	105
A-P	7.3	7.5	6.0	80	328.2	290.0	217.0	75
All Hay ^{2/}	360	380	360	95	60,076	63,160	63,052	100
Dry Edible	10.5	1.0	3/	—	2,014.1	2,023.0	1,836.7	91

^{1/}Intended plantings in 1999 as indicated by reports from farmers. ^{2/}Acres expected to be harvested. ^{3/}Estimates discontinued beginning in 2000.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO: March alfalfa hay prices, at \$115.00 per ton, were \$1.00 below February and \$9.00 below last year's price of \$124.00. The all hay price, at \$113.00 per ton, was also \$1.00 below last month. Cow prices increased \$1.30 in March to \$41.30 per cwt. This was \$3.50 above last year at the same time and was \$2.70 above the U.S. average. Steer and heifer prices, at \$88.40 per cwt., were 90 cents above last month, and were \$15.90 above last year. This price was \$15.60 above the U.S. average. Calf prices, at \$105.00, were \$2.00 above February and were \$19.00 above last year. The New Mexico calf price was \$2.00 less than the U.S. average. Milk prices were \$12.00 per cwt. in March, 20 cents less than last month and \$2.20 below last March. The U.S. average was \$11.80 per cwt. in March.

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, February 2000 and March 1999-00.

Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S.
		Mar 1999	Feb 2000	Mar 2000 ^{1/}	Mar ^{1/}
-----Dollars-----					
CROPS					
Grain Sorghum	Cwt	--	--	--	3.28
Cotton, Upland	Lb	--	--	--	.478
Potatoes	Cwt	--	--	--	6.32
Hay, all baled	Ton	121.00	114.00	113.00	74.80
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	124.00	116.00	115.00	78.00
Apples	Lb	--	--	--	.205
Corn	Bu	--	--	--	2.03
Wheat, all	Bu	--	--	--	2.57
LIVESTOCK					
Cows	Cwt	37.80	40.00	41.30	38.60
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	72.50	87.50	88.40	72.80
Calves	Cwt	86.00	103.00	105.00	107.00
Milk	Cwt	14.20	12.20	12.00	11.80

^{1/}Mid-month.